

HON. ABRAM C. HATCH of Heber City, who passed away March 24th, 1932, was a veteran business and professional man in the public life of Wasatch County and the state. His home had been in Utah all his life, for over three-quarters of a century, and he was one of the most active of the old-timers in the affairs of his district.

Mr. Hatch was born at Lehi, Utah County, December 14, 1856, son of Abram and Parmelia J. (Lott) Hatch. His father was one of the earliest pioneers of Lehi, and in the course of a long and active life was a merchant, farmer, rancher, and for many years bishop of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. He was the first president of the Wasatch Stake. He died December 3, 1911.

Abram C. Hatch as a boy attended public schools at Lehi and Heber. In 1876, at the age of twenty, he began ranching in Eastern Utah and Western Colorado, raising cattle and horses. In 1879 he established his home at Heber, where he continued in association with his father and brother in the ranch business until 1894. In the meantime there came to him the call of public service. In 1893 he was elected a member of the Legislature from the district comprising Wasatch, Emery and Grand counties. He served

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one term of two years. In the meantime he was devoting all his leisure time to the study of law and on February 23, 1895, was admitted to practice before the Utah Supreme Court. During the subsequent thirty-five years he handled a large volume of general law practice and has earned the reputation of a very able lawyer. In 1896 he received the Republican nomination for district judge, getting the nomination in convention by a vote of forty-five to eighteen. He was defeated by just 103 votes. However, the successful candidate resigned in June after his election and Judge Hatch was appointed to fill the unexpired term by the governor. In 1900 he was elected on the Republican ticket district attorney for Wasatch, Utah and Uinta counties, serving one term, and refused reelection. Judge Hatch organized the town of Heber, and served as its attorney for three years. He gave freely of his time and professional services in many ways for the benefit of his locality and district. He helped establish the Heber Light & Power Company. He had an official part in the Republican party organization and in 1929 was prominent in the Ogden Republican Convention. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Heber, the Utah State and American Bar Associations.

Judge Hatch married December 17, 1879, Miss Maria Luke of Heber, daughter of Henry and Harriett Luke, who were early settlers in Sanpete County. Mrs. Hatch passed away March 19, 1919. On April 12, 1920, Judge Hatch married Elizabeth Nelson of Heber. His four children were: Abram Chase, Jr., now deceased; Henry Ray, a prominent physician of Idaho Falls, where he established a well equipped hospital; Sumner, now a member of the board of county commissioners of Wasatch County; and Kate, wife of George C. Murdock, Jr., of Beaver, Utah.

Heber City Attorney
District Attorney
County Attorney

W. S. WILLES.

Wm. S. Willes is one of the rising attorneys of this county, and is enjoy-



ing a lucrative and growing practice.

He was born at Lehi, September 5, 1858, and came to Provo valley in 1880. He was bookkeeper for the firm of A. Hatch & Co., for about six years, when he resigned to go into the photograph business.

He married Miss Mary L. Clyde November 30, 1882, who became his right-hand assistant, not only in his home, but in his art studio. While working in his studio, he took up the study of law, and after about two years of labor with the camera and brush, turned the business over to his wife and entered the legal profession.

We was appointed probate judge of Wasatch county in 1894, by President Cleveland and served until the office was abolished by the advent of statehood in 1896. He was admitted to the bar of the supreme court of Utah in 1894, and has held the office of county and city attorney and is now assistant county attorney of this county.

